

LATIN AMERICA

2. Central American Republics May Act Together in Breaking Relations With Cuba: The five Central American republics may act together in breaking relations with Cuba if El Salvador follows the lead of Guatemala and Nicaragua, which have already suspended relations with the Castro government. A usually reliable source reported on 9 June that El Salvador will break relations within two weeks. Presumably the delay is to allow time for the government to gather proof of Cuban meddling in Salvadoran internal affairs and to confer with the Honduran and Costa Rican

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1997

governments, which have been hesitant to act unilaterally. Cuban ambassadors have been particularly provocative in supporting radical, Communist-inspired opposition groups in Honduras as well as in El Salvador.

President Villeda Morales of Honduras told an American official on 9 June that he was willing to participate in a joint rupture. Villeda Morales said the Costa Rican foreign minister had suggested the previous day that the time might be proper for El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica to draw up a statement announcing their break with Cuba. The Honduran President indicated that Nicaragua and Guatemala would also be invited to participate in a Central American declaration announcing the breaking of diplomatic relations with Castro's regime.

Guatemala and Nicaragua have been exerting pressure on the other three republics to join in an act of Central American solidarity against the Castro regime. The Nicaraguan Government on 1 June demanded the recall of the Cuban ambassador and his entire staff for engaging in subversive activities. The Nicaraguans regard this move as equivalent to "suspension" of diplomatic relations. The Guatemalan Government took similar action on 29 April.

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